

**Abstract**

A method of initialising application instructions on a processing system. An application (602) comprises a number of dynamically shared objects or modules. Each of these modules may include data structures (614) that require initialisation. Modules are dependent upon each other, and a module initialisation order is identified by automatically registering a module's dependencies in an initialisation list (608) during module loading, processing module dependencies to identify all dependencies, and generating an initialisation schedule (609). Module initialisation (506) is then performed. Plug-in modules can be loaded and initialised after the application has started, and the plug-in schedule is appended to the initialisation schedule. Finalisation is performed in reverse order, when the application is closed.

15 (Figure 5)

"Express Mail" mailing label number E L 815953274 US  
Date of Deposit AUGUST 27 2001  
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post  
Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.16 on the date  
indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner  
for Trademarks, 2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202-3513.

Suzie McCleave  
(Printed Name)  
Suzie McCleave  
(Signature)